

of course,—Is the Mmonty Report Socialism?
 To that,
 in a very early number of *The Crusade*, they
 replied

"The answer to this question depends upon
 what you mean
 by Socialism If you mean the nationalisation of the
 means of
 production, then there is no Socialism, nor even
 any Socialistic
 tendency, in the Minority Report But if you
 mean State
 action generally, then all the proposals are
 Socialistic But so is
 the present Poor Law, so is the work of the Public
 Health
 authorities, so is the provision of Public
 Education so, every
 bit as much, is the scheme of the Majority Report
 In this sense,
 even a main drainage scheme is Socialism, in that
 it is provided
 gratuitously by the State for the use of all, but it
 is admittedly
 an indispensable piece of Socialism and commits
 no one to the
 State ownership of industry So with the Minority
 scheme It
 does not pie-judge the real issue between
 Socialists and Indi-
 vidualists, but it (or something like it) is
 indispensable if you
 wish to have a healthy foundation on which to
 build your
 supei-structure, whether you intend it to be along
 Individualist
 lines or Socialist"

A sufficiently ingenious piece of controversial
 dialectic,
 this, it is cited here to indicate that, up to
 the time of
 the war, the line or pattern of approach was
 that suggested
 in the highly characteristic remark, "In this
 sense, even
 a mam drainage scheme is Socialism "

In the broader sense, they never altered that
 approach,
 but the war, as a fact, the new experiences
 wartime con-
 ditions brought to both, the grave threat to
 democracy
 they shrewdly sensed, in many quarters, the
 infection of
 the Socialist mind itself by Communist,
 Syndicalist, and
 other ideas, all deriving their appeal from the
 belief in

force—the combined effect of this was to
impel them to
take up, swiftly and resolutely, the other part
of the task
the positive declaration both of Socialist plan
and of
Socialist method

As a member of the Labour Party
Executive, he had,
in the years between 1915 and 1918,
contributed potentially
to the two transforming changes that
made Labour a